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June 6, 1968

Mrs. Max Koenig
2903 North 73rd Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53210

Dear Mrs. Koenig:

In answer to your letter of May 27 I am enclosing a copy of my article on "melanopenia". As Mr. Spaulding mentioned in the article from the Milwaukee Journal that you sent me, my reference to melanopenia was an ironic one.

My knowledge of vitiligo is limited to what I have read in the literature about it. I do not see any way in which it has been related to blood cells or blood samples, and I do not see any connection wither with the possibility of Negro ancestry. Vitiligo is, of course, very much more conspicuous in a Negro than in a Caucasian. It does seem to be, very often, a hereditary disease with the late age of onset that you mention.

I believe there have been some forms of treatment of some cases of the disease, proposed during the last ten years or so, and the best I can suggest to you is that you consult a specialist in dermatology at Marquette University, in particular, Dr. Donald Ruch. He would, I am sure, be very much better informed than I am about the most modern approaches to treating your unfortunate condition.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics